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Senate May Probe Oswald's Motive

By DAVID C. MARTIN

WASHINGTON (AP) — Why did Lee Harvey Oswald kill President John F. Kennedy more than a dozen years ago.

That will be one of the first questions to face a proposed new Senate committee that would watch over the workings of U.S. intelligence agencies.

The Senate intelligence committee voted yesterday to recommend that the proposed new panel conduct an investigation into the never officially answered question of why Oswald shot Kennedy as the President rode in a motorcade through Dallas, Tex., on Nov. 22, 1963.

Sen. Richard Schweiker, a member of a two-man subcommittee looking into the role of spy agencies in the Kennedy assassination, said the investigation had turned up "some very interesting questions and some new material" about intelligence agency actions during the time of the Kennedy slaying. But about the assassination itself, he said, "we didn't attempt to determine who did it."

But the creation of the new committee remains in doubt.

The compromise measure to create the new panel ran into some unexpected trouble yesterday when members of the Armed Services Committee, which currently monitors the CIA and other spy agencies, raised the possibility of a filibuster.

Sen. Gary Hart, D-Colo., the other member of the subcommittee that investigated the performance of U.S. intelligence agencies in connection with the Kennedy killing, said he had seen no evidence to contradict the Warren Commission finding that Oswald was the lone assassin.

Schweiker, R-Pa., disagreed, saying, "I have always questioned the Warren Commission finding about who did it and about how it was done. My six months on this subcommittee have reinforced and strengthened that doubt."

Schweiker said his limited probe of the events surrounding the assassination found the Warren report to be based on a faulty investigation in which leads either were ignored or not followed up.

He cited as examples the CIA's failure to inform the commission of its schemes to kill Cuba's Fidel Castro and the FBI's destruction of a threatening note delivered by Oswald to FBI offices in Dallas just days before the assassination.